(b) the number out of them pending for (i) more than three years but less than five years (ii) for more than five years but less than ten years and (iii) for over ten years;

(c) whether a large number of cases are pending due to vacancies of judges; and

(d) if so, the number of sanctioned posts and the vacancies of judicial officers in Delhi, category-wise and the action propose to be taken to fill the vacancies and otherwise to expedite the cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

New technology in judicial systems

†1101. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have also added the condition that same amount also be contributed by the State Governments in Centrally sponsored projects to equip the judiciary with the latest technology;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that most of the States have not taken the Central grant due to their poor economic conditions; and

(c) if so, whether Government would consider to provide the whole amount itself without depending on the States in order to bring improvement in judicial system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme relating to development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary is being implemented only to augment the resources of the State Governments. One of the main conditions of the scheme is that the State Government must come forward with a matching share to the amount released by the Central Government. However, the State Governments are free to utilize additional funds from their own resources. Funds are being released for construction of court building and residential accommodation of the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

judges/judicial officers and out of this, some funds are being earmarked for information technology in court as per direction of Planning Commission.

(b) Most of the States have taken the Central grant for the purpose.

(c) The Department of Justice is committed to the use of technology as more for modernization of courts. In pursuit of this objective, a comprehensive programme of full-scale computerization under Central Sector is proposed.

Judicial reforms

1102. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an urgent need for judicial reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas identified in this regard; and

(d) by when the steps would be taken to initiate the process of reforms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (d) Judicial reforms is a continuous process. It keeps pace with the changing time, conditions and requirements of the people. All efforts of the Government is geared to provide speedy and inexpensive justice to the common man.

The areas identified in this regard are court and case management in higher and lower judiciary, augmentation of physical and IT infrastructure, filling up of vacancies of Judges, simplification of judicial procedures, and training for improvement in the quality of administration of justice.

In recent past, various reforms have taken place in the judicial system of the country for speeding up the delivery of justice. Setting up of Fast Track courts and Special Courts, Computerisation of judiciary, simplification of judicial procedure, augmenting Judges strength in High Courts and subordinate Courts, training of Judicial Officers in Court management, organising Lok Adalats and alternative modes of dispute resolution and setting up of special tribunals are some of the aspects of ongoing judicial reforms.